

ACTION		ACTION	
1	Info	Cy Provided	6
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SURNAME OF ACTING OFFICER AND GRADE		SYMBOL	PHONE
Ellenburg, Lt Col		A/J-3FD	3209
SUBJECT		TYPE OF MESSAGE	EXPENSE DATE
Flight 9 Justification Briefing		318	29 July 1980
			DATE 22 JUL 1980

SUMMARY

1. A DSP Flight 9 justification briefing, approximately 45 minutes long, has been prepared to advise CINCPAC and staff of the current and projected capability of DSP Flight 6 and to establish a Command position on the launch of a replacement satellite, Flight 9.

2. The briefing addresses the historical pattern of satellite replacement, DSP responsibilities, Flight 6 degradation, launch replacement capability, and recommends a CINCPAC requirement for a replacement launch. The briefing is tentatively scheduled for 31 July 1980, 1000 hours in the War Room. Background information for your individual consideration prior to the briefing follows:

a. DSP Flight 6 is the western hemisphere satellite providing primary coverage of the Atlantic threat region and is positioned at 70 degrees West. It was launched in June 1976. b1

Satellite replacement is typically based on the loss of sensor detection capability (against the minimum intensity threat, b1 resulting from the effects of on-orbit exposure and inability of the sensor to dissipate the increase in temperature that is known to occur with time on-orbit. This sensor warning degradation is a known b1 phenomenon, and manifests itself in the form of increased background noise within the sensor. The loss of detection capability results from the inability of the sensor to differentiate between this background noise and low intensity IR data points b1

The extent of degradation can be predicted analytically by determining the Probability of Detection (Pd) against threat targets in different areas (elevation zones) within the satellite's FOV. b1

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3. Based on projected degradation, Flight 6 will no longer be capable of supporting CINCNORAD's mission in January 1981. Time periods in which DSP could be supported by a scheduled launch (considering Launch Pad, booster and satellite availability) are from 1 Oct 80 - 15 Jun 81 and from Nov 82 on. Therefore, J-3 will recommend to CINCNORAD on 31 July that NORAD request the launch of a replacement vehicle, Flight 9 in the 1st quarter of calendar year 1981.

4. Request that J-37D's secretary be notified of attendance by 29 July at Ext 3309.

5. IAW the current DSP data disclosure letter on release to Canadian Officials, the information in this Staff Summary Sheet is releasable to Major General LaFrance and Colonel Pike.



1444 R. BUDNER, Brig Gen, USAF
Asst OCS/Operations

1 Atch

Flight 6 Elevation Zones
and Pa degradation

Cy to: A/J-31

FLIGHT 6 ELEVATION ZONES AND
Pd DEGRADATION

b1